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WHAT NEW YORK PAYS FOR HAVING ITS CLOTHING CLEANED

small Places and Home Work Apt to Be Far From Cleanly, Thereby Bringing With the Finished Work the Dangers of Disease-Big Shops Are Safely Run

Greater New York spends a million dollars every week for laundry and is yearly adding to the amount. This is the assertion of the owner of one of New York's

largest and best equipped steam laundries There are between 35,000 and 40,000 persons engaged in the business of laundering and they are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars every year to improve and to enlarge their plants.

Steam laundries have taken a leading place in the fight which has been going on in the cities for cleanliness as a weapon against disease and sickness. They are handling work now in the manner considered impossible a few years ago. The buildings in which all the work of a prosperous steam laundry is done are built of steel and concrete and are kept clean by a force of men and women who make this their sole work.

So much emphasis has been laid by doctors and health boards on the necessity of cleanliness that the old style hand laundry and the home washwomen are losing much of their trade because of their inability to convince the awakened public that garments washed or handled in close tenement houses or the back room or basement of a store can possibly be returned to their owners in the best of

It is to this fact that the modern steam laundry owes its increasing business When the public learns something of the surroundings of the small laundries and the lack of care in keeping clothes away from objects which breed sickness work is at once taken from that sort of laundry and sent to the up to date establishment where every known precaution is taken to keep dirt and disease from getting à

While some small laundries as a rule do their best to keep their places in good shape it is impossible for them to equip their stores or houses in the best manner. Lack of capital prevents them in many cases having separate rooms for living and work and makes them unable to buy machinery to handle the work properly.

The method pursued by most so-called hand laundries is to send all their goods to a steam laundry for washing; the garments are then returned for the starching and ironing, which is done in the store. This method, while far from perfection, is better than having all the work done on the premises in that the articles are washed if nothing else.

It is when they are dampened in a crowded store, where the family often lives in the rear, that the unhealthy effect begins. Every article is handled many times by the operators and the goods are packed without being sterilized.

Even worse are the conditions when laundry is given to a laundress to take home to be cleaned. The class of people who do this work are forced to live in tenements where there is not the proper ventilation and where the struggle for the money on which to exist takes so much of the time that the rooms are neglected.

There is no means of knowing what contagious diseases the occupants of neighboring apartments are suffering from and sometimes the members of the laundress's family are the victims. In these surroundings the laundry of many fami-lies is exposed, the laundress being unwilling to let her customers know the conditions for fear that her only source of income will be cut off.

Cases of this kind are known where sickness has developed in the families which send out laundry to this class of laundress, which when traced have shown two and sometimes three cases of disease which were contagious, and it has been proved without a doubt that germs were carried through the clothes.

With the many laws which are enforced to protect the public from contact with disease it is remarkable that the health boards do not demand legislation against home work and the carrying on of laundering in unhealthy places, but with the spread of knowledge of the dangers from contact with dirt and unsanitary conditions it is thought possible that in a few years it will be unlawful to carry on a laundry business except under the best and cleanest surroundings.
In the steam laundries there is never

a, backward step. Effort is made to conduct the work according to the latest principles of sanitation. The aim is to launder goods with as little contact with operators as possible and to return them to the owners free from all dirt or injurious matter.

Washing garments in the modern machines purifies them, as during the time they are in the machine they are subjected to a heat of more than 200 degrees Fahrenheit, the water is changed at least six times and the best of soars and bleaching material is used. During one of the changes a disinfectant is added, which purifies and does away with the possibility of disease spreading in case any of the articles should have been infected when entering the machine. Permanganate of potash is the disinfectant used by many of the large laundries, as it does no injury to clothes and is

The washing process is a long one. occupying one hour and thirty-five minutes. There is a careful selection of the articles to be washed. Colored goods are not mixed with white, fine goods are not mixed with rough, and

body linen and table wear are kept apart. The ironing machines in use now. being supplied with steam and in reality being pressing machines, do away with friction and the possibility of burning. After a contact with the steam ironers goods go to the final room to be examined and if in perfect condition are sterilized, packed and delivered to the owner after a thoroughly healthful and sanitary cleaning, during which they have been NEW YORK subjected to less hard usage than would be possible in a home or a hand laundry.

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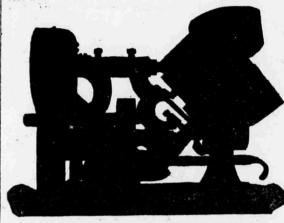
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The accompanying cut illustrates one of the specialities manufactured by the WM. A. ZEIDLER CO.: they have recently moved to more spacious quarters in their new factory at 163rd St. and Melrose Ave.



Furthermore, the machine gives a full tie space to the collar, and condition that should exist in all perfectly folded collars.

The accompanying cut is an illustration of a turn down collar machine. This machine is capable of turning out 20,000 collars in a ten hour workday. The machine is designed and constructed to fold and smooth the edges of turn down collars, where the collar is worn and becomes broken through wear or careless laundering.

The turn down collar department is one of the most particular branches of the laundry, for a laundry is apt to lose a customer very quickly if the turn down collars are delivered to lift broken or in a condition that will irritate the neck.

The above machine eliminates entirely the possibility of a collar being folded and left rough or imperfect on the edge.

A conical disc, which at all times rotates on the inner side of the collar when being folded, acts as a resistance against a grooved disc from the outside: both of these discs are beated and at the contact points dry out, carry and edge the collar while passing through the machine.

This is another important feature

NEW YORK

Laundry Machinery AND APPLIANCES

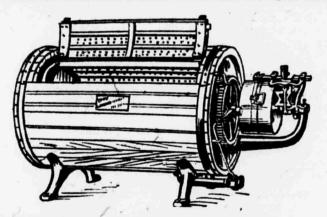
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